



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Vice Chairperson Jerome E. Horton

4th District – Los Angeles

Ramon J. Hirsig
Executive Director
www.boe.ca.gov

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Jerome E. Horton Announces 2010 Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearings

Annual Public Hearings Set for April and June in Northern and Southern California

Jerome E. Horton, Vice Chairperson of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE), today announced that the Board will hold Taxpayers' Bill of Rights hearings in Sacramento on April 13 and in Culver City on June 15.

The five-member Board will hear public comments on issues related to the business and property taxes laws administered or overseen by the BOE, including sales and use taxes, environmental fees, fuel taxes, excise taxes, and property tax. The Taxpayers' Bill of Rights hearings will each begin at approximately 1:30 p.m. at the following two locations:

Tuesday April 13, 2010	Board of Equalization Headquarters Building 1st Floor Board Room, Room 121 450 N Street Sacramento , CA 95814
Tuesday June 15, 2010	Board of Equalization District Office 5901 Green Valley Circle, Suite 207 Culver City, CA 90230

Each of the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights public hearings will also be webcast live at www.boe.ca.gov.

In January 1989, the BOE was mandated by law under the Harris-Katz California Taxpayers' Bill of Rights to ensure that the rights, privacy, and property of California taxpayers were adequately protected in the assessment and collection of sales and use taxes. The Taxpayers' Bill of Rights was expanded in 1993 to include special tax programs. The Morgan Property Taxpayers' Bill of Rights was added in 1994. Both the Harris-Katz and the Morgan Taxpayers' Bill of Rights require the Board of Equalization to conduct annual hearings to give the public an opportunity to present their ideas, concerns, and recommendations to the Board Members.

Anyone planning to make a presentation at one of the hearings is invited to contact the Board's Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Office by calling toll free 888-324-2798 or emailing www.boe.ca.gov/info/emailtra.htm.

Additional information about the hearings, the Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Office, and taxpayers' rights is available at:

Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearings: www.boe.ca.gov/meetings/heartra.htm.

Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Office: www.boe.ca.gov/tra/tra.htm

Taxpayers' Rights Advocate's Annual Report: www.boe.ca.gov/tra/tra0809.pdf

Publication 70, Understanding Your Rights as a California Taxpayer: www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/pub70.pdf

Vice Chairperson Jerome E. Horton is the 4th District Member of the BOE, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the BOE Legislative Committee chair. Horton is the first African American to serve on the BOE since its inception in 1879, and the third African American constitutional officer in California's history. Horton was appointed by the Governor and confirmed by both the Assembly and the Senate in 2009. Horton previously served as an Assembly member from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$53 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

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